

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 20.

(Please amend claims 21 and 22 as follows:)

21. (Currently Amended) A stent having first and second ends with an intermediate section therebetween, the stent further having a longitudinal axis, and both an unexpanded and expanded configuration comprising:

(a) a plurality of longitudinally disposed struts, wherein each strut defines a wave along the longitudinal axis; the spatial frequency of the wave associated with each of the struts being different in a first end region lying proximate to one of said ends in comparison to the spatial frequency of the wave in the intermediate section; and

(b) a plurality of links for maintaining the struts in a tubular structure; wherein said frequency is greater in said first end region.

22. (Currently Amended) A stent having first and second ends with an intermediate section therebetween[,] and a longitudinal axis, and both an unexpanded and expanded configuration comprising:

said unexpanded configuration comprises a plurality of longitudinally disposed wave-shaped struts; and

a plurality of circumferential links for maintaining the struts in a tubular structure at a plurality of locations along said strut, wherein each said strut is connected to an adjacent strut by a separate link ~~at a plurality of locations by a link to an adjacent strut~~, each link being axially displaced from any circumferentially adjacent link.